

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification⁶:

H04N 5/913

A1

(11) International Publication Number:

WO 97/37492

(43) International Publication Date:

9 October 1997 (09.10.97)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/05257

(22) International Filing Date: 31 March 1997 (31.03.97)

(30) Priority Data:

60/014,684

1 April 1996 (01.04.96)

US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MACROVISION CORPORATION [US/US]; 1341 Orleans Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): WONFOR, Peter, J. [US/US]; 962 Malaga, El Granada, CA 94089 (US). NELSON, Derek [US/US]; 3250 A. Glendale Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025 (US).

(74) Agent: BRILL, Gerow, D.; Macrovision Corporation, 1341 Orleans Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94089 (US).

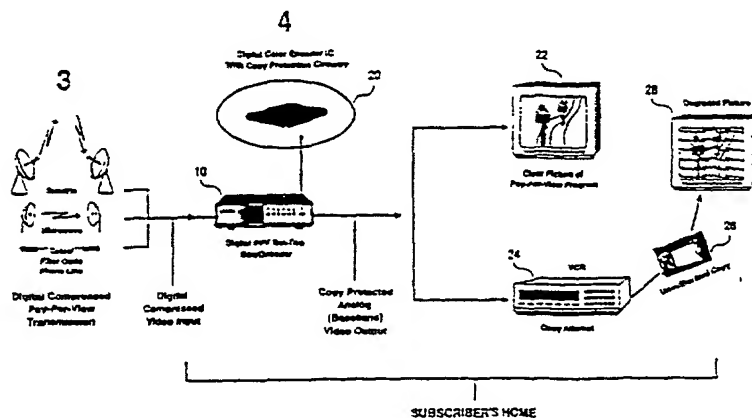
(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: A METHOD FOR CONTROLLING COPY PROTECTION IN DIGITAL VIDEO NETWORKS



(57) Abstract

A method and system of providing copy protection of video analog and digital signals and the like, wherein the signals are transmitted via a digital delivery network, and may comprise, for example, pay-per-view (PPV) program materials protected by copyrights of respective program rights holders. The right holders authorize video service providers (3) to apply copy protection to the program material. The copy protection process is supplied to the rights holders or the service providers (3) by a copy protection process licensor. The video service providers (3) supply suitable copy protection control software via respective control and billing (tracking) centers to generate commands which activate, control and reconfigure the copy protection process being applied to the programs being transmitted. A set-top box (10) is provided to each consumer and contains a copy protection circuit which is adapted to apply selected anticopy waveforms to the video signal corresponding to the program material in response to the commands from the service providers (3). Usage data pertinent to each consumer is returned by the set-top box (10) to the service providers (3), which then report the copy protection usage to the respective rights holders and process licensor.